



## MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

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**LINDA McCULLOCH**

HB 180: Eliminate Late and Elect Day Voter Registration  
House State Administration, Rm 455  
January 20, 2011 @ 8:00 a.m.  
Secretary Linda McCulloch's Testimony

EXHIBIT # 3  
DATE Jan 20 11  
#13 180

- Good morning Madam Chair, members of the committee. For the record, I am Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State.
- I am here today to respectfully, but strongly oppose House Bill 180, because I believe that eliminating late and same-day voter registration runs counter to the core freedoms that our country was founded on.
- Liberty. Democracy. The right to vote. Those are principles that should never be infringed upon by bureaucracy and government imposed timelines.
- That's something I think you and I can agree upon. It's also something I know that 42,905 Montanans can agree upon, too.
- **42,905** Montanans have used late voter registration to vote in a statewide election since 2006.
- **18,747** of those Montanans registered and voted on Election Day.
- These are real people in each and every one of your legislative districts. These are Montanans who have voted in your elections.
- Voting is one of the most fundamental rights we share as citizens of this great state and nation. This right is the foundation upon which our Democracy is formed.
- So, if you support "Freedom" and you support "Democracy," then how can you support a bill that could turn your neighbors away at the polls?
- Because that's exactly what HB 180 will do. It will strip away someone's right to vote.
- When you cast your vote on this bill, ask yourself, "Do you support bureaucracy or do you support Democracy?"
- I urge a "no" on House Bill 180. Thank you for your time this morning.